

Amendment to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1: (Currently Amended) A method of decorating an article comprising:

~~a step consisting of~~ preparing a transfer sheet by printing same with at least one heat-activated ink, substance; and

~~a transfer step consisting of~~ transferring the heat-activated substance to the article by applying said transfer sheet to the article to form an assembly ~~be decorated~~ and heating the assembly, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein heating is performed by quenching the assembly ~~article to be decorated, which is associated with the transfer sheet~~, in a non-ferrous metal alloy bath, which is maintained at a nominal temperature for the activation of said heat-activated substance.

Claim 2: (Currently Amended) The method of decorating an article according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the bath is ~~made up of~~ includes an alloy ~~containing~~ comprising antimony, tin, bismuth and lead.

Claim 3: (Currently Amended) The method of decorating an article according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the bath is ~~made up of~~ includes an alloy ~~containing~~ comprising bismuth, lead, tin and cadmium.

Claim 4: (Currently Amended) The method of decorating an article according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that wherein~~ the bath is ~~made up of~~ includes a non-ferrous metal alloy containing comprising bismuth.

Claim 5: (Currently Amended) The method of decorating an article according to ~~any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that~~ Claim 1, wherein the article ~~to be decorated~~ is enclosed in a film of Teflon on which an image is printed using at least one heat-activated substance.

Claim 6: (Currently Amended) The method of decorating an article according to ~~any one of the claims from 1 to 4, characterised in that~~ Claim 1, wherein the article ~~to be decorated~~ is enclosed in a sheet of backing paper on which an image is printed using at least one heat-activated substance.

Claim 7: (Currently Amended) The method of decorating an article according to ~~any one of the claims from 1 to 4, characterised in that~~ Claim 1, wherein the article ~~to be decorated~~ is enclosed in a sheet of transfer paper on which an image is printed using at least one heat-activated substance.

Claim 8: (Currently Amended) The method of decorating an article according to ~~any one of the claims from 1 to 4, characterised in that~~ Claim 1, wherein the article ~~to be decorated~~ is enclosed in a flocked material on which an image is printed using at least one heat-activated substance.

Claim 9: (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ method of decorating an article according to ~~any of the preceding claims, characterised in that~~ Claim 1, wherein said heat-activated substance is a sublimable ink.

Claim 10: (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ method of decorating an article according to ~~any of the preceding claims, characterised in that~~ Claim 1, wherein the heat-activated substance is an ink of the "thermofusible" type.

Claim 11: (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ method of decorating an article according to ~~any of the preceding claims, characterised in that~~ Claim 1, wherein the heat-activated substance is a gold leaf.

Claim 12: (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ method of decorating an article according to ~~at least one of the claims from 1 to 9, characterised in that it comprises a transfer step in which~~ Claim 1, wherein the transfer sheet forms a watertight envelope around the article to be decorated, which is connected to a depression spring, during the step of transferring the heat-activated substance to the article.

Claim 13: (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ method of decorating an article according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that the heating to activate the ink during the transfer step is assured by immersion in~~ wherein the bath includes a non-ferrous metal alloy consisting of bismuth, lead, tin and cadmium (Bi 50%, Pb 25%, Sn 12.5%, Cd 12.5%), which has a melting point of around 70°C, maintained at a temperature of around 190°C.

Claim 14: (Currently Amended) The method of decorating an article according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that the~~ wherein the transfer sheet comprises a substrate ~~consists of~~ backing paper.

Claim 15: (Currently Amended) The method of decorating an article according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the heat-activated substance ~~consists, for example, of~~ includes a heat-activated glue that comprises pigments or metal powders.

Claim 16: (Currently Amended) The method of decorating an article according to Claim 1, ~~characterised in that it comprises a step consisting of~~ comprising unwinding a transfer sheet in the form of a strip[[.]] and ~~of~~ bringing it into contact with a wire to be decorated upstream from the bath.

Claim 17: (Cancelled).